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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

REF: Docket 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to respectfully request that you respond to the petition that was submitting in April of 1998 to ban forced molting; please grant the requests of the petition without further delay.

As people are becoming more and more aware, it is apparent that cruelty and contamination are linked to one another and the practice of forced molting not only are extremely stressful to animals, but because forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying the starving hens' immune systems. Forced molting has been shown to be a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and the consumers thereof.

The FDA should feel morally responsible to ban practices that harm human health because the chickens are not the only ones suffering with this outdated system; it would make sense for the FDA to take action being that it has the jurisdiction to stop the practice.

Until the FDA has stopped this practice, you should make it mandatory to put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and regulate refrigeration temperatures.

Thank you for your consideration,

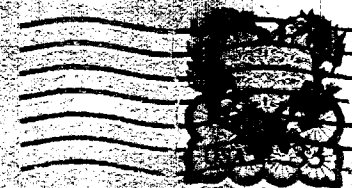


96P-0418

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C610

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C611
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